

The Delaware Difference

Integrating Academic Excellence with Professional Experience

The School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) integrates classroom instruction, research, and applied practice to equip our graduates with the leadership, project implementation, and critical-thinking skills necessary for professional success.

Our diverse, socially conscious community of faculty and staff are committed to teaching academic and professional best practices, and our active alumni network helps mentor and connect students with career opportunities.



Located near the northern tip of Delaware in Newark, our campus is convenient to many East Coast cities, including Wilmington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and New York City.



The School of Public Policy & Administration offers the following graduate programs:

- ◆ Master of Public Administration
- ◆ M.A. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy
- ◆ Ph.D. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy
- ◆ M.A. in Historic Preservation
- ◆ M.S. in Disaster Science & Management
- ◆ Ph.D. in Disaster Science & Management



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Educate • Explore • Engage • Empower

Master of Science in

Disaster Science & Management



 **SPPA**
School of Public Policy
& Administration

www.sppa.udel.edu

A Career as a Disaster Professional

Megatrends such as increasing globalization, global warming, and heightened public awareness of the frequency, extent, and impact of disasters reinforces the need for disaster professionals. Whether serving federal, state, or local government as a consultant or academician, you can contribute to disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

Why Disaster Science & Management?

The goal of our M.S. program is to create exceptional professionals who advance the understanding and application of disaster-focused science, and who can serve as leaders and stewards of the discipline.

University of Delaware is home to the world-renowned Disaster Research Center, which serves as a focal point for discipline-specific, as well as cross-disciplinary, disaster-related research activities. The faculty and staff working in the center and teaching classes come from various professional and academic backgrounds, allowing our students to benefit from their diverse perspectives.

Our record in disaster research and graduate education serves as an exceptional foundation for the interdisciplinary Disaster Science & Management graduate degree program.

Relevant Experiences

Field experiences help students differentiate and translate between the controlled classroom environment to the complexities found in the field, which supports sound research and professional practices. International experiences are often available, and our students draw on a broad base of ongoing and new opportunities for collaboration in the required International Comparative Aspects of Disasters course.



Image courtesy of the NOAA



Sean Waugh NOAA/NSSL



The M.S. in Disaster Science & Management at the University of Delaware

Admission

Admission requires a bachelor's degree with a strong academic record; three letters of recommendation; GRE scores; TOEFL score (for international students); resume; personal statement; and a record of achievement in related work or volunteer experience.

In addition, applicants must include a non-refundable application fee and should complete a SPPA Supplementary Information Form.

Applying is easy.... Do it today!

Visit www.udel.edu/gradoffice/apply/

The 30-credit program usually is completed in two years of full-time study, and a part-time option is also available. The curriculum consists of:

- ◆ Core courses—15–18 credits
- ◆ Seminars—2 credits
- ◆ Internship—1–4 credits
- ◆ Elective courses—3–9 credits
- ◆ Optional thesis—0 or 6 credits

Research Assistantships

SPPA's competitive research assistantships provide students the opportunity to broaden their experiences beyond the classroom and gain insight into daily operations in public and nonprofit organizations or scholarly research.

Research assistants receive a stipend and tuition scholarship, and typically work 20 hours per week in one of these affiliated interdisciplinary research and public service centers:

- ◆ Disaster Research Center
- ◆ Institute for Public Administration
- ◆ Center for Community Research and Service
- ◆ Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research
- ◆ Center for Historic Architecture and Design

It is also possible for research assistants to work in external community agencies or with faculty and staff on other research and special projects.

Apply to the program by the Priority Deadline for maximum consideration for an assistantship.

Our Commitment to Diversity

Addressing complex and dynamic problems depends on understanding, respecting, appreciating, and valuing different perspectives and experiences. SPPA is committed to offering its students an interdisciplinary and multicultural education. That commitment is expressed in our curriculum, study abroad opportunities, faculty and staff, and student community.

Personal Attention

Students interact closely with faculty and staff on academic matters and research and public service projects. We are fully invested in the academic and professional success of our students.

There is a full calendar of social events, seminars, and lectures by special guests. SPPA graduate students have many opportunities to become involved in and lead student, SPPA, and University-wide activities.

Scholarships and Aid

Scholarships and financial assistance are awarded on an annual basis and governed by the availability of funding.

Core Courses

DISA650	Overview of Disaster Science & Management
DISA651	International Comparative Aspects of Disasters
DISA670	Issues in Disaster Response
UAPP808	Qualitative Methods for Program Evaluation AND
EDUC665	Elementary Statistics (thesis students take both; non-thesis students take one)
UAPP698	Management Decision Policy Making for Public & Nonprofit Sectors OR Decision Tools for Policy Analysis
MAST663	Decision Tools for Policy Analysis
DISA680	Disaster Science & Management Seminar
DISA857	Practicum (internship)

Thesis / Non-Thesis Options

Thesis Option

Students who wish to write a thesis will take 3 credits of elective courses and have 6 credits for their thesis.

Non-Thesis Option

Students who do not write a thesis will take an additional 3 credit practicum and have 9 credits of elective courses.